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are very nearly symmetrical, the intensity curves consisting of a gradual rise from the violet side, a slight depression due to the absorption, and a perhaps more gradual decline to the red side. But the two nebulium bands are distinctly unsymmetrical, the bright parts being stronger on the violet side of the absorption band than on the red side. Adams and Joy mention this feature, noting that it is the reverse of that seen in the bands of Nova *Geminorum* No. 2, 1912. The displacements of the bright bands are very uncertain, but those of the superposed absorption bands average much less than an angstrom, which probably indicates that they are in general normally placed. There are no narrow lines available on these plates for determining radial velocity.

It is obvious from the spectra that this nova at the times of the observations had reached the nebular stage of the usual cycle of spectra presented by novae.

May, 1918. G. F. Paddock.

The Parallax of Barnard's Star of Large Proper Motion

Eighteen exposures made at the 80-foot focus of the 60-inch reflector between September, 1916, and May, 1918, give as the relative parallax and proper motion in right ascension

$$\Pi = +0.''519 \pm 0.''006$$
$$\mu_\alpha = -0.''728 \pm 0.''014$$

The following preliminary parallaxes by other observers have already been published:

Russell	$\Pi =$	$+0.''70$	$\pm 0.''06$
Schlesinger		$+0.50$	< 0.03
Gonnessiat		$+1.00$	....
Mitchell		$+0.47$	± 0.01
Lee		$+0.52$	± 0.02
Comas-Sola		$+0.418$	± 0.024

Adopting $+0.''500$ for the parallax, the absolute magnitude is 13.17 photovisual and 14.93 photographic; the object is therefore one of the very faintest stars known.

A. van Maanen.